

Wrockwardine Wood Infant School & Oakengates Nursery Federation

Charging & Remissions Policy



Policy Document Status			
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1. Aims

Our school aims to:

Have robust, clear processes in place for charging and remissions

Clearly set out the types of activity that can be charged for and when charges will and will not be made

Offer a range of activities and visits whilst minimising the financial barriers that may prevent some pupils from taking full advantage of these opportunities

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on advice from the Department for Education (DfE) on [charging for school activities](#) and [the Education Act 1996](#), sections 449 to 462 of which set out the law on charging for school activities in England.

It's also based on guidance from the DfE on [statutory policies for schools and academy trusts](#).

3. Definitions

Charge: a fee payable for specifically defined activities

Remission: the cancellation of a charge which would normally be payable

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 The Governing Board

The governing board has overall responsibility for approving the charging and remissions policy, but can delegate this to a committee, an individual governor or the headteacher.

The governing board also has overall responsibility for monitoring the implementation of this policy.

In our federation, responsibility for approving the charging and remissions policy has been delegated to Chairman of the Governing Board

4.2 Headteachers

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring staff are familiar with the charging and remissions policy, and that it is being applied consistently.

4.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

Implementing the charging and remissions policy consistently

Notifying the headteacher of any specific circumstances which they are unsure about or where they are not certain if the policy applies

The school will provide staff with appropriate training in relation to this policy and its implementation.

4.4 Parents

Parents are expected to notify staff or the headteacher of any concerns or queries regarding the charging and remissions policy.

5. Where charges cannot be made

Below we set out what we cannot charge for:

5.1 Education

- Admission applications
- Education provided during school hours (including the supply of any materials, books, instruments or other equipment)
- Education provided outside school hours if it is part of:
 - The National Curriculum
 - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school
 - Religious education
- Instrumental or vocal tuition, for pupils learning individually or in groups, unless the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent
- Entry for a prescribed public examination if the pupil has been prepared for it at the school
- Examination re-sit(s) if the pupil is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school

5.2 Transport

- Transporting registered pupils to or from the school premises, where the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide transport
- Transporting registered pupils to other premises where the governing board or local authority has arranged for pupils to be educated
- Transport that enables a pupil to meet an examination requirement when he or she has been prepared for that examination at the school
- Transport provided in connection with an educational visit

5.3 Residential visits

- Education provided on any visit that takes place during school hours
- Education provided on any visit that takes place outside school hours if it is part of:
 - - The National Curriculum
 - - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school
 - - Religious education
- Supply teachers, covering for teachers who are absent from school, accompanying pupils on a residential visit

6. Where charges can be made

Below we set out what we can charge for:

6.1 Education

- Any materials, books, instruments or equipment, where the child's parent wishes him or her to own them
- Optional extras (see section 6.2)
- Music and vocal tuition, in limited circumstances (see section 6.3)
- Certain early years provision
- Community facilities

- Examination re-sit(s) if the pupil is being prepared for the re-sit(s) at the school and the pupil fails, without good reason, to meet any examination requirement for a syllabus

6.2 Optional extras

We are able to charge for activities known as 'optional extras'. In these cases, schools can charge for providing materials, books, instruments or equipment. The following are optional extras:

Education provided outside of school time that is not part of:

- The National Curriculum
 - A syllabus for a prescribed public examination that the pupil is being prepared for at the school
 - Religious education
- Examination entry fee(s) if the registered pupil has not been prepared for the examination(s) at the school
 - Transport (other than transport that is required to take the pupil to school or to other premises where the local authority or governing board has arranged for the pupil to be provided with education)
 - Board and lodging for a pupil on a residential visit
 - Extended day services offered to pupils (such as breakfast clubs, after-school clubs, tea and supervised homework sessions)
 - When calculating the cost of optional extras, an amount may be included in relation to:
 - Any materials, books, instruments or equipment provided in connection with the optional extra
 - The cost of buildings and accommodation
 - Non-teaching staff
 - Teaching staff engaged under contracts for services purely to provide an optional extra (including supply teachers engaged specifically to provide the optional extra)
 - The cost, or an appropriate proportion of the costs, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, or vocal tuition, where the tuition is an optional extra

Any charge made in respect of individual pupils will not be greater than the actual cost of providing the optional extra activity, divided equally by the number of pupils participating.

Any charge will not include an element of subsidy for any other pupils who wish to take part in the activity but whose parents are unwilling or unable to pay the full charge.

In cases where a small proportion of the activity takes place during school hours, the charge cannot include the cost of alternative provision for those pupils who do not wish to participate.

Parental agreement is necessary for the provision of an optional extra which is to be charged for.

6.3 Music tuition

Schools can charge for vocal or instrumental tuition provided either individually or to groups of pupils, provided that the tuition is provided at the request of the pupil's parent.

Charges may not exceed the cost of the provision, including the cost of the staff giving the tuition.

Charges cannot be made:

- If the teaching is an essential part of the National Curriculum
- If the teaching is provided under the first access to the Key Stage 2 instrumental and vocal tuition programme
- For a pupil who is looked after by a local authority

6.4 Residential visits

We can charge for board and lodging on residential visits, but the charge must not exceed the actual cost.

7. Voluntary contributions

As an exception to the requirements set out in section 5 of this policy, the school is able to ask for voluntary contributions from parents to fund activities which would not otherwise be possible.

Some activities for which the school may ask parents for voluntary contributions include:

- Educational Visits e.g. visits to Blist Hill, Pantomime etc.
- Sports activities
- Educational visitors e.g. Key Strings, animal man, theatre company

There is no obligation for parents to make any contribution, and no child will be excluded from an activity if their parents are unwilling or unable to pay.

If the school is unable to raise enough funds for an activity or visit then it will be cancelled.

8. Activities we charge for

The school will charge for the following activities:

Wrockwardine Wood Infant School Extended provision
(Breakfast & After School Club)

At our extended provision for Breakfast and After School Club, we believe in open communication with all our parents and staff. We set our charges in consultation with our parents and pupils and this pricing policy is presented to ensure that everyone concerned fully understands our charging structure.

Provision Monday -Friday term-time only	Time	Cost per session
Breakfast Club	7:30am -8:50am	£2.50

Booking and charges

To secure a child's place parents must complete a booking form and pay for sessions in advance.

All booking forms must be emailed to the admin team via A2116@taw.org.uk.

Children will not be allowed to attend breakfast club or after school club sessions unless they have been booked and paid for in advance. Consideration will be given to parents in receipt of pupil premium.

Notice of any increase in fees

One month

Breakfast Club

What is included in this price?

A healthy breakfast with a choice of cereal and milk, fruit, toast and topping, fruit juice, fruit, milk, or water.

Breakfast will stop being served at 8.20am. After this time the club will provide a play environment only.

Activities include

- Reading,
- Board games,
- Craft activities
- Physical activity, eg hopscotch, dance, outside play- weather permitting.
- Quiet space for homework.

Special Activity Days

Breakfast Club will occasionally offer special activities at no extra cost and free taster sessions.

The charging policy is available to all parents and staff on our website.

Wrockwardine Wood Nursery Wrap around provision additional childcare provision 30 hour offer
(The table of charges below were reviewed by the Governing Board July 2023).

Parents who are eligible for 30 hours can access the funding as follows:

30 Hours Term-Time (38 weeks)

This entitles parents/carers to 10 X 3-hour sessions per week between 8:45-3:30pm. The funded 30-hour sessions **excludes** breakfast, lunch and after school provision. Charges are as follows:

Wrap around care	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	TOTAL
Additional childcare provision	£3.40	£3.40	£3.40	£3.40	£3.40	£17.00
School Meal Options	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	TOTAL
Hot School Meal	£2.45	£2.45	£2.45	£2.45	£2.45	£12.25
School Packed Lunch	£2.45	£2.45	£2.45	£2.45	£2.45	£12.25
Home Packed Lunch	No charge	No charge	No charge	No charge	No charge	No charge
Parents will pay for a school meal via the cashless system using the Telford and Wrekin website. http://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20028/school_meals/8/pay_for_school_meals						

Oakengates Nursery school charges for Daycare (including wrap-around) and additional sessions

Baby Room and Toddler Room Day Care Charges –Contract Terms Full Year (51 weeks) or term-time only (38 weeks)
 ** The daily rates for term-time only retains your child’s place during the non-term-time holidays
 **

Weekly session Information	Rates	
Full Week Full Year Bookings qualify for discount		
5 x Full Days £245.70 – 5% discount =	£233.42	
5 x Short Days £168.50 - 5% discount =	£160.08	
5 x Mornings £129.75 - 5% discount =	£123.26	
5 x Afternoons £132.55- 5% discount =	£125.92	
Term-time only Bookings		
5 x Full Days £270.30 -5% discount =	£256.79	
5 x Short Days ££185.35 -5% discount =	£176.08	
5 x Mornings £142.75 -5% discount =	£135.61	
5 x Afternoons £145.85 -5% discount =	£138.56	
Weekly sessions - Times and Rates	Full Year	Term-time
Morning -including Breakfast & Lunch (7:30am -12:30pm)	£25.95	£28.55
Afternoon-including High Tea (12:30pm -6:00pm)	£26.51	£29.17
Short Day -including Lunch Babies 8:30am -3:30pm Toddlers 8:45am -3:30pm	£33.70	£37.07
Full Day – including Breakfast, Lunch & High Tea (7:30am -6:00pm)	£49.14	£54.06
Wrap around (Daycare)		
Breakfast (7:30am -8:45am) includes a selection of cereals and toast	£4.99	
Lunch (11:45am -12:30pm) includes a well-balanced hot meal	£5.61	
Late session/Tea (3:30pm -6:00pm) includes a High Tea	£10.88	

Pre-school parents who are eligible for 30 hours funding can access this in the following ways:

Rates for Pre-School & Toddlers Funded sessions (term-time only extra grant funded sessions above 15-hour or 30 hour)	Rates
8:45am -11:45am (morning) 3-hour session	£14.00
12:30pm -3:30pm (afternoon) 3-hour session	£14.00

- Monday -Friday term-time only (38 weeks) which entitles your child to 10 X 3-hour sessions per week between 8:45am -3:30pm.
- Monday-Friday full year (51 weeks) which entitles your child to 7 X 3-hour sessions per week between 8:45am -3:30pm which includes non-term-time holiday club.

Funded sessions exclude breakfast, lunch and after school (late session) as these are day-care, chargeable sessions.

Terms and Conditions of charges

- a) The nursery charges do not include nappies, baby wipes or formula milk. You will be required to provide these for your child.
- b) The nursery charges are to reserve your child's place and therefore full charges will be made if your child is absent.
- c) At Oakengates nursery school a £50.00 deposit is required for day care parents on registration to secure your child's place.
The deposit will be refunded to the parent/s when the child leaves the nursery provided that:-
 - The parent/s has given a minimum of one month's written notice to terminate their child's place
 - All outstanding fees (including childcare vouchers) have been paid before the child's last day of Attendance
 - The child has attended nursery for a minimum of three months.
 - The deposit is non-refundable to the parent/s in the event of the child not starting nursery after securing an offered and accepted place.
- d) At Oakengates nursery school parents/carers who are eligible for funding to pay for their childcare (e.g., college funding/student finance) will be required to have the funding in place before your child starts nursery and provide the office with evidence of this entitlement.
- e) We will only accept bookings for a minimum of 3 sessions per week.
- f) Parents will not be charged for bank holidays, a week at Christmas or when the nursery is closed. Session charges will apply for all other calendar days.
- g) If you wish to terminate your child's place, we require one month's written notice. Failure by the parent/s to give the provider a minimum of one month's notice, in writing, of termination of services will result in a charge of one month's fees In lieu of notice
- h) At Oakengates Nursery if you wish to amend your child's sessions, we require 2 weeks' notice period to action this and put arrangements in place. and this will be subject to availability.
- i) If you are late collecting your child from their session, you will be charged £5 for every 10 minutes from the end of your child's session. These charges will be added to your next invoice.
- j) Charges and remissions are reviewed annually. Parent's will be given one month's notice of any changes.

Payment of charges

- a) Parents will receive a monthly invoice which is payable a month in advance of childcare provision.
- b) All nursery charges are due by the 7th day each month.
- c) Charges not paid by 7th of the month will be deemed overdue.
- d) Failure to pay your invoice will result in your child's daycare place or non-funded sessions (breakfast, lunch and after school (late) sessions being cancelled.

Process for overdue payment of nursery charges

STAGE 1

If an invoice is not paid in full within 7 days parents will receive a Stage 1 (Appendix 1) letter to remind them that payment is overdue and their child's place at nursery is at risk.



STAGE 2

If non-payment of the invoice continues within 7 days of receipt of the Stage 1 letter, parents will receive a Stage 2 letter (Appendix 2) withdrawing full day care and wrap around care provision. At this stage 15- and 30-hour funded places will continue if no other additional charges are incurred e.g., lunchtime provision.

For regular activities, the charges for each activity will be determined by the governing board and reviewed each year.

9. Remissions

- In some circumstances, the school may not charge for items or activities set out in sections 6 and 8 of this policy. This will be at the discretion of the governing board and will depend on the activity in question.

9.1 Remissions for residential visits

- Parents who can prove they are in receipt of any of the following benefits will be exempt from paying the cost of board and lodging for residential visits:
 - Income Support
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
 - Child Tax Credit – provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
 - Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
 - Universal Credit – if you apply on or after 1 April 2018, your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

10. Monitoring arrangements

The federated School Business Manager monitors charges and remissions and ensures these comply with this policy. This Policy will be reviewed by the Federated School Business Manager annually. At every review the policy will be approved by the Governing Board.

Appendix 1

Dear

Stage 1 Letter

Notification of non-payment of Childcare Fees for the amount of £???

The term of your financial agreement clearly states that payment for childcare must be paid in advance. The terms are that payment must be received within 7 days of the invoice being issued.

Please plan for this debt to be cleared immediately. If payment has not been received within 7 days, then you will run the risk of having your childcare placement cancelled.

If your child is entitled to government funded sessions of 15 hours or 30 hours, your child may be able to access nursery for these hours. However, your child will not be able to access any day care elements such as the lunchtime provision.

Should you wish to set up a standing order to pay your monthly childcare fees please do so using the details below. Please use your child's name as a reference.

HSBC Bank

Sort Code: 40-44-50

Account No. 81690884

Appendix 2

Dear

Stage 2 Letter

Ref: Non-payment of childcare fees in full and withdrawal of childcare

On ???? you were sent a Stage 1 letter informing you of the non-payment of childcare fees in full for the month of ???

As the invoice has not been paid so you have now failed to meet the terms of your financial agreement. As payment has not been made in full your childcare has been withdrawn with immediate effect.

If your child is entitled to government funded sessions of 15 hours or 30 hours, your child may be able to access nursery for these hours. However, your child will not be able to access any day care elements such as the lunchtime provision.

To clear this debt, please do so using the details below. Please use your child's name as a reference.

HSBC Bank

Sort Code: 40-44-50

Account No. 81690884

Help and support with debt

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/help-with-debt/>